GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1881
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2004
RECONSTITUTING PORT TRUSTS
Majhi Shri Parsuram

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to reconstitute the major Port Trusts;

(b) if so, the Port Trusts which have been reconstituted so far;

(c) the date by which all the major Port Trusts are likely to be reconstituted; and

(d) the steps being taken to revamp all the major Port Trusts?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (c): There are 12 major ports, namely Kolkata, Mumbai, Jawaharlal Nehru, Chennai, Cochin, Visakhapatnam, Kandla, Mormugao, Paradip, New Mangalore, Tuticorin and Ennore. Ennore Port is a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956, and remaining 11 major ports are governed by the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963. These 11 ports have Board of Trustees which are constituted as per the provisions of Section 3 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963. The Board of Trustees for the ports of Jawaharlal Nehru, Tuticorin and New Mangalore stand reconstituted for the period from 1.4.2003 to 31.3.2005.The Board of Trustees for the ports of Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai, Cochin, Visakhapatnam, Kandla, Mormugao and Paradip were due for reconstitution for the period from 1.4.2004 to 31.3.2006. These Boards were reconstituted with official trustees during May and June 2004.In respect of other trustees on these Boards, which could not be finalized along with official trustees because of Model Code of Conduct, then in force the names of individuals/organizations have now been finalized. Notifications for the Board of Trustees of Chennai, Cochin, Mumbai, Visakhapatnam and Paradip have since been issued except for some of the names for which the organizations that have been selected have to send the names of their representatives. With respect to other ports, the matter is under process for issue of notification.

(d): The major port trusts are constituted as per the provisions of Section 3 of Major Port Trusts Act, 1963. As far as working is concerned, the development and modernization of Major Ports is an ongoing and continuous process.To increase efficiency and capacity, following major steps have been taken from time to time:-

(i) Construction and equipping of new berths/terminals;

(ii) Replacement of existing equipment with the state-of-art equipment on existing berths;

(iii) Labour training and improvement in management practices for achieving higher efficiency/output;

(iv) Private sector involvement in the development and operation of port facilities to bring out additional investment and modern techniques for greater efficiency;

(v) Computerisation of port working and partial induction of Electronic Data Interchange; and

(vi) Setting up of Vessel Traffic Management System.